

pies were obtained from the land records of Baltimore county of the deed of Jeremiah Yellott to the corporation of Baltimore, which is herewith presented for the examination of the general assembly. It appears, from the inspection of the deed, in connection with the act of assembly passed at December session 1797, chapter 102, entitled, An act to encourage the establishment of a hospital for the relief of indigent sick persons, and for the reception and cure of lunatics, that the city of Baltimore has the legal title to the hospital, but that the consideration in the deed was probably paid by, and the first improvement, as well as those of a later date, erected, by the bounty of the state. Under these circumstances the committee instructed the chairman to address a note to the mayor of the city of Baltimore inviting a conference with the council upon the subject of the hospital; accordingly a joint committee was appointed by the two branches for the purpose. From this committee the information was obtained, that the corporation had always claimed and possessed the hospital in absolute property, and had leased it by an ordinance passed in 1808, authorising a lease on certain conditions to Doctors Mackenzie and Smyth, for the term of fifteen years, an attested copy of which lease, from the land records of Baltimore city, is herewith presented. And by a subsequent ordinance the corporation agreed to extend the lease, on certain conditions, to doctors Mackenzie and son, but it appears that the new lease, in pursuance of this ordinance, has never been executed, and the present lessees are tenants at will. Under these circumstances the committee were induced to suggest to the joint committee of the two branches, that the Baltimore hospitals, so long fostered by the bounty of the state would nevertheless fail to attract the confidence of the community, or the contributions of private munificence, so long as it remained a private establishment. That were the right of property vested in the state, to which she had at this time an equitable claim, and the government of the institution subjected to the control of the general assembly, there could be little doubt that the utility of it would be greatly increased, and the responsibility of the visitors, for its proper management, duly enforced. These suggestions, at the request of the committee, were communicated to the two branches, who acted upon them, and passed a resolution on the 23d instant, a copy of which accompanies this report, proposing to cede to the state upon certain terms, all the right, title and estate of the corporation, in and to the property of the hospital. The committee are induced to believe, that the several amounts which may have been paid by the city towards the lot and buildings of the hospital, are very moderate, an account of which may be procured in a few days, and they therefore recommend the acceptance of the terms proposed by the resolution of the city council.

It remains for the committee to notice the present condition of the hospital, as it appeared to them during their visit made to it on the invitation of Doctor Mackenzie; having no authority to require or compel a disclosure of its internal management, the